## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Maui County** 

Maui County Civil Defense Agency 200 S. High Street, Wailuku, HI 96793

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## COUNTY TO DRAFT PLAN TO PREPARE FOR IMPACTS OF NATURAL HAZARDS

Maui County is embarking on a planning process to prepare for impacts of natural disasters. Responding to federal mandates in the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390), Maui County pooled resources and created a uniform hazard mitigation strategy that can be consistently applied to the defined planning area. This planning process is being led by Maui County Civil Defense Agency with support from a technical consultant. The planning process will take approximately 10 months to complete.

During this process, citizens will be asked to contribute by sharing local knowledge of an area's vulnerability to hazards based on past occurrences. Public involvement will be solicited via a multi-media campaign that will include public meetings, web-based information, questionnaires and updates on the plans progress via the news media. This process will be overseen by a Steering Committee made up of stakeholders from within the planning area. This Steering Committee will meet as needed on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month at the Maui County EOC at 200 S. High Street, Wailuku, HI 96793. These meetings will typically run from 10:00am to 11:30am and are open to the public.

An informational website on the plan and purposes for planning has been established at:

## http://co.maui.hi.us/index.aspx?NID=1832

This website will serve as the primary means for the public to gain information on the plan and ways that they can participate in the planning process. The public is highly encouraged to provide input on all phases of this plan's development.

Any questions or comments regarding this process are encouraged and should be directed to Anna Foust at Maui County Civil Defense Agency - phone: (808) 270-7285 or email: civil.defense@mauicounty.gov